**Welcome!**

Welcome to the first edition of Chamber Chat. Each month, we’ll bring you news about what is happening in the Pleasants County business community and what your Chamber of Commerce is doing to support local small businesses.

**Meet the Chamber Board**

The Pleasants Area Chamber of Commerce has an active board that’s always looking to support and showcase our business community. Current board officers are: Casey Edwards, board president; Jason Schofield, vice president; Amy Childers, secretary; and Jared Moncman, treasurer. Additional board members are: Kay Powers, Jay Powell, Glenn Goff, Anthony Farris, Tina Oldfield, and Sherry Maston.

Mike Nelson serves as the Chamber’s interim director while leading the search for a permanent director.

**Can you smell what’s cooking?**

It’s onions! The annual Sweet Breath of Spring Onion Festival returns to downtown St. Marys on Saturday, May 6. Despite cool weather, last year’s festival was a tremendous success, bringing hundreds of onion lovers to the heart of our business district. This year’s event promises to provide even more food and fun.

The day kicks off at 11AM and runs until 4PM with vendors and activities all along Second Street. In addition, the St. Marys Police Department will host its annual children’s fishing derby at the marina, beginning at 2PM.

Scheduled vendors include 304 Smoke Shanty and Wood Chips. Fresh onion rings also will be available throughout the day.

The Chamber welcomes additional vendors for the festival. Any interested vendors should contact a Chamber board member or email the Chamber at paccwv@gmail.com.

**In The Works**

Remember that the Chamber sponsors bingo on the first Tuesday of each month at the St. Marys Golf Course. Games start at 6PM and the SMGC offers concessions and other delicious food options during the games.

Future plans for Chamber members include a Valley Gem ride with local pick-up and a business after hours event at The Greenhouse.

Also, the Chamber reminds everyone to support the Elks lodge at its dinner and dance on March 17. Proceeds from the evening go to support local scholarships because “Elks Care Elks Share”.

**Building Our Business Community**

Chamber members receive many returns on their small annual dues investment. The Pleasants Area Chamber of Commerce supports local small business through community events, networking activities, and educational seminars. To become a member or to learn more about the Chamber, call us at 304-684-9909 or email paccwv@gmail.com.